

January 30, 2003

Country of Origin Labeling
Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA
Mr. William T. Sessions, Assoc. Deputy of Admin.
Stop 0249 Room 2092-S
1400 Independence Ave. SW
Washington, DC 20250-0249

Dear Mr. Session:

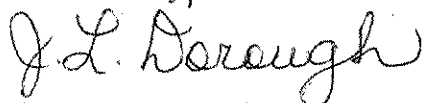
I own a real "family farm". My family has worked hard over the years to provide food for the whole world. While I know that we must import foods from other countries, it has put the American farmer at a disadvantage. We are held to strict regulations while other countries are not. To be quite frank with you, we try to ^{buy} products that are produced by American farmers. My familiarity with insecticides that are probably used by other countries scares me to death.

I grow pecans and have always tried to be a good steward of the land and at the same time follow regulations our government has imposed on us.

I would feel much better knowing that pecans were labeled with their Country of Origin. This would allow my family and others who feel as I do to select our food products more carefully. I also feel that it would allow the producer to better market his product.

Please consider adding pecans to Country of Origin Labeling. We, as farmers, take pride in our efforts at production and this would help support our American pride.

Sincerely,



J. L. Dorrough